MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Sir, may I know whether, as a result of the number of cases filed in that court from 1103 till the end of 1110 supplied by the Government in this House on a former occasion, the Government do not think that there is real necessity for making the court a permanent one ?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No, Sir. If Government were really convinced of the necessity, they would have made the court a permanent one.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : May I know whether there is any difference in the disposal of cases between a temporary court and a permanent court ?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Certainly not. Both the temporary court and the permanent court have each a Munisiff for the disposal of cases.

South Indian Railway Board.

63 ***MR. P. C. KURIYAN** (*Kottayam I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state who represents the Travancore Government on the South Indian Railway Board at present, if there is any one ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Mr. M. L. Janardanan Pillai, Secretary, Alleppey Chamber of Commerce, Alleppey.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*) : May I know the chief considerations that weighed with Government in the choice of a representative of the Travancore Government on the South Indian Railway Board ?

PRESIDENT : The considerations weighing with Government in making particular appointments cannot be discussed. Any question on any principle alone can be discussed.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) . What are the functions of the Travancore representative on the Advisory Board ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : He has to represent the State in the Board, and to look after the interests of the State. Whenever questions relating to the State are considered, he will be able to give information.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know what all questions relating to the State are discussed in the Board ?

MR. T. C THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Questions relating to the travelling public and the freight on articles conveyed by the railway.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Are these the only questions that have to be safeguarded by the representative of the Travancore Government in the Advisory Board ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : I did not say that these are the only questions. I mentioned merely two of the many questions considered by the Board.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : What are the interests, that have to be safeguarded ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Whatever is in the interests of the State will be considered,

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Sir, I want to know the questions relating to the State, that come up before the Board and that are intended to be safeguarded by the representative of the Travancore Government ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) Whenever questions affecting the State come up, they will be considered. That is all.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether, before appointing a representative, the Travancore Government has no idea of the kind of work that has to be done by the representative ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : No specific work has been assigned to him. Whenever questions affecting the interest of Travancore are considered by the Board, the representative will be there to give his views, *i. e.*, the views of Government.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Is the procedure before the Advisory Board regulated by any rules and are there any particular functions assigned to the Board under those rules ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : No rules have been laid down by the Travancore Government rules may have been laid down by the Board.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) Are the Government aware of those rules ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : No

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : So, is it without knowing what those rules are that the Travancore Government appoint a representative for safeguarding their interest ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) Sir, it is a purely Advisory Board; and when questions are considered by the Board, the views of this Government will be made known to it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) What I want to know is whether the Government are not sure of the subjects on which advice is to be given by the Board.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : When any subject is considered, the views of this Government on that question will be given.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Is it *any* subject that will be considered by the Advisory Board ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) I do not say that.

MR. PADDE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : Is the Board a statutory body ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : No, Sir.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil*) : May I know whether it is one of the duties of this representative to see that Travancoreans get employment in the railway service ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : It is not his duty. It such questions are considered by the Board, the representative will present his views also.

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MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know, Sir, whether the Travancore Government have given proper instructions to the present representative to see to that also?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) I do not think special instructions have been given.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether Government think that there is proper representation for Travancoreans in the South Indian Railway service?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I believe the Railway Company said that there is proper representation.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether Government themselves have verified that statement of the Company and have satisfied themselves in regard to it?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, the Government are satisfied that there is proper representation for Travancoreans in the South Indian Railway service.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know whether the Government are in receipt of a copy of the proceedings of the Advisory Board's meetings?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): May I know the number of members on the Board?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether he is aware of any specific question that has till now been considered by the Board?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) The representative generally makes a report of the proceedings after attending the meeting of the Board.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) May I know whether the member will be able to give one or two instances from any such report?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know the number of Travancoreans employed by the South Indian Railway Company?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Without knowing the exact number of Travancoreans in the service of the South Indian Railway Company, may I know how is it that the member said there is proper representation of Travancoreans in that service?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): That question was referred to the South Indian Railway Company; and as a result of the correspondence on the subject, the Government were satisfied that the representation was sufficient.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamitta*): Who asked the Government to be satisfied? Was it the Company?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government are not asked to be satisfied by any body.

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MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Then may I know the ground on which the Government arrived at the conclusion that everything was satisfactory, without ascertaining either the number of Travancoreans or the percentage of the Travancoreans employed in the South Indian Railway service?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Sir, the honourable member is wrong. Government considered the question after referring the matter to the Railway Company and were satisfied that the representation was sufficient.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Then may I know how many Travancoreans are employed in that service?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice; I have not got the information now with me.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Sir, is the member in order? He says that he does not know the number of Travancoreans employed and at the same time that Government are aware of a certain fact to satisfy them that there is sufficient representation.

PRESIDENT: He claims notice only with regard to the exact number.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Then I wish to know the percentage of Travancoreans employed in that service.

PRESIDENT: When he cannot give the number, how is he going to work out the percentage?

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): May I know whether the Government will be pleased to get a copy of the rules governing the discussions of this Advisory Board?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, Sir.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Sir, may I know whether the right to be represented on the Board has been secured by Government as a concession shown to them by the railway authorities?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): When the Railway Company ask the Government to nominate a member on the Board to represent them, they do so.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): May I know who meets the expenses of the Travancore representative for attending the meetings of the Board?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): The Railway Company.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether there is any duty cast on the Railway Board to make any periodical report regarding its work to the Travancore Government?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): When the Travancore representative is nominated he is asked to send a short report of the proceedings to the Government as soon as the meeting is over.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Is it an annual report?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): For every meeting he sends up a short report.

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum – Urban*): Are the proceedings of the Board public or confidential?

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MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I think they are public.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I ask, Sir, whether Government give instructions from time to time regarding the attitude to be taken by their representative on matters that come up for discussion?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, Sir.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): How many times in the year does the Board meet?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): About three or four times.

The Aquarium in the Public Gardens.

64. *MISS HEPZIBAH GNANASIKAMONY (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) if they have officially closed the aquarium in the Public Gardens; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) be in the affirmative, the reasons why the aquarium was closed?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The experiment did not prove successful.

MISS HEPZIBAH GNANASIKAMONY (*Nominated*): May I know, Sir, how the aquarium came to be closed?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): When it was first opened there was a rush of visitors to it, probably on account of the novelty, but subsequently there were very few visitors excepting some zoology students from the colleges. It was also considered not safe to leave the aquarium in the condition in which it was The bridge to cross over to the aquarium was old and ricketty and the building itself had cracks and was in an unsound condition. So Government thought it better to close down the aquarium.

MISS HEPZIBAH GNANASIKAMONY (*Nominated*): In view of the educational importance of the aquarium in the State, will the Government consider the question of reviving it and working it with success?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I think it is not worth while to consider the question of reviving it. The question for consideration will be to start a new aquarium. That depends upon funds. It will require a pretty large amount to start a really good aquarium of educational value to the public and to students. It cannot be considered at present owing to financial stringency.

MISS. HEPZIBAH GNANASIKAMONY (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether government admit the educational importance of the aquarium?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, they do: but the difficulty of starting an aquarium on proper lines at present is to find funds.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyattinkara I*): May I know the amount so far spent on this account?

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